**Africa RISING Program**

**Highlights – ToT training for scaling partners in Amhara region (May 15 – 19, 2017)**

**Background**

* The training program had five components:

1. Presentations on Africa RISING program (phases 1 and 2) – by Kindu and Annet
2. Presentations by key scaling partners (zonal administration – cops and livestock; Debre Berhan University; SUNARMA (NGO/CBO) and one private sector buyer (Global Malting Services Company). The partners’ presentations focused on what they do and what gaps they think Africa RISING program can ‘fill’.
3. Training of scaling partners on the key technologies tested, validated and packaged by Africa RISING, ready for scaling
4. A session on implementation planning
5. A visit to Africa RISING technology sites such that they get acquainted with what is available as well as share their experiences on why and how some technologies can realize their potential.

**Impressions** (what ESA/WA could adapt from AR-Ethiopia scaling activities)

1. Availability of fact sheets/technology descriptions that provide talking points between AR and scaling partners
2. Clear presentations by partners on what they do, and where they think AR could be much more relevant. This makes it easy for AR to organize accordingly after clarifications
3. Training of all partners (by theme – crop, livestock, postharvest, etc.) in one setting, thereby providing an opportunity for sharing and learning. The same applies to site visits, with visitors (scientists and extension staff) sharing insightful comments for improvement/sustainability.
4. Integration of gender issues (although participants indicated that they need more capacity building in use of tools)

**Improvements** (what AR-Ethiopia could do better) – and beyond the presentation made, I shared these with Kindu, Simret, Annet and Gebrehiwot (M&E)

1. I was asked to share our experience of taking technologies to scale in Tanzania with NAFAKA. From the presentation, the team were impressed by the achievements in terms of targets so far. I was asked to share our data collection tools such that the team adapts it to their activities since they also report on FtF indicators
2. Also, as part of the implementation planning (and arising from the presentation I made), roles of each partner need to be articulated with resource allocation clarified.
3. Development of training materials beyond fact sheets/technology briefs was encouraged.
4. Uniform reporting guidelines for all scaling partners should be developed